

Message Text

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11/51

ACTION AID-59

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ISO-00 INR-11 INRE-00 IO-14 SSO-00

SS-20 NSC-07 PM-07 SWF-02 SCI-06 PC-10 USIE-00 DODE-00

AGR-20 INT-08 COME-00 EB-11 IGA-02 RSC-01 DRC-01

NSCE-00 /215 W

----- 040588

O 101240Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8385

AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY NIAMEY IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

USMISSION BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

USCINCEUR IMMEDIATE

USCINCRED MACDILL AFB IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO IMMEDIATE

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (PARA. 5., LINE 4)

AFDROUGHT

ROME FOR FODAG PASS OSRO; PARIS FOR HELMAN; EC BRUSSELS FOR
MARTIN

E O 11652: NA

SUBJ: CHAD AIRLIFT

REFS: A) STATE 171757; B) NDJAMENA 2081

1. IN MEETING WITH GOC DROUGHT CO-ORDINATOR MINISTER DJONOUA
AUGUST 10, HE WARMLY WELCOMED OFFER AIRLIFT ASSISTANCE AND
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UNDERTOOK TO EXPEDITE CLEARANCE PROCEDURES FOR SURVEY VISIT

(NDJAMENA 2085).

2. DJONOUA FULLY CONCURS THAT AIRLIFT BE BASED "QUARTERED NDJAMENA WITH BULK ACTUAL LIFT INVOLVING EVACUATION STOCKS AT MAIDUGURI DIRECT TO REMOTE AREAS CHAD.

3. DJONOUA ALLEGES THAT QUANTITIES REQUIRED IN REMOTE AREAS CHAD FAR EXCEED ANY FORESEEABLE AIRLIFT POTENTIAL AND THEREFORE RELUCTANT SET TOTAL FIGURES FOR NEEDS. DJONOUA GAVE FOLLOWING DISTRIBUTION CENTERS AS BEING MOST IN NEED OF IMMEDIATE ASSISTANCE IN DESCENDING ORDER NEED AND SUGGESTED PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF ESTIMATED 2,000 TONS. MONGO (25 PERCENT); FAYA (25 PERCENT); BILTINE AND IRIBA (25 PERCENT); ABECHÉ (10 PERCENT); ATI (10 PERCENT); AND AM TIMAN (5 PERCENT). DJONOUA UNABLE HOWEVER TO GIVE UP TO DATE ASSESSMENT OF PROVINCIAL AIRFIELDS ABILITY TO ACCEPT C-130'S.

4. DJONOUA PROFESSES NOT TO KNOW PRECISE INTENTIONS ECAM UNION REGARDING ARRIVAL AND UTILIZATION AN-12. UNRESOLVED QUESTIONS INCLUDE REFUSAL TO DATE SOVIETS PERMIT AN-12 LAND WHERE NO RADIO FACILITIES AVAILABLE OR WHERE TOWER PERSONNEL NOT CONVERSANT IN ENGLISH. NO OTHER DONOR AIRCRAFT NOW FORESEEN BY DJONOUA. SHOULD SOVIET AIRCRAFT MATERIALIZE, HOWEVER, DJONOUA PROFESSES SEE NO PROBLEM CO-ORDINATING SCHEDULE WITH U.S. AIRCRAFT.

COMMENT:

SOVIET COMMITMENT TO SUPPLY AIRCRAFT SEEMS RELATIVELY FIRM AND INTENTION HAS BEEN CONFIRMED BY SENIOR STAFF SOVIET EMBASSY NDJAMENA TO AMEMBOFFS, BUT HARDLY SURPRISING HOWEVER THAT SOVIET TECHNICIANS GETTING COO FEET AS THEY BEGIN APPRECIATE REALITIES CHAD.

5. AMEMB EVALUATION:

GOC DESCRIPTION OF CRITICAL SITUATION, LARGELY THAT OF DJONOUA IN PLEA DONORS' MEETING JULY 31 AND TO INDIVIDUAL DONORS PRIVATELY, BOILS DOWN TO STATEMENT THAT STOCKS, FOOD AND MEDICAMENTS ALL BUT EXHAUSTED AREAS MENTIONED ABOVE AND SUFFERING ALREADY APPARENT. WFP (AND ACTING FAO) REPRESENTATIVES AGREES LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THAT NEED EXISTS, BUT CONSIDERS THAT LISTING PRIORITIES BY DJONOUA AT LEAST PARTIALLY INSPIRED BY POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS. EMB HAS LITTLE OTHER FIRST HAND KNOWLEDGE. SMALL GROUP OF EMBASSY WIVES (INCLUDING TWO TRAINED NURSES) WHO VISITED MATERNITY AND CHILDRENS WARDS' MAIN HOSPITAL DOWNTOWN NDJAMENA FOUND WIDESPREAD MALNUTRITION AMONG THE PATIENTS AND MOTHERS, NUMBER OF WHOM FROM OUTLYING PROVINCES, ACCORDING HOSPITAL EUROPEAN MEDICAL STAFF MEMBER, MANY PATIENTS ARRIVING OTHER

NDJAMENA HOSPITALS IN OUTSKIRTS OF CITY IN APPRECIABLY WORSE
CONDITION. NO ONE QUESTIONS THAT MUCH OF SUFFERING IN CHAD
IS PRODUCT OF GOC APATHY AND INABILITY ESTABLISH EFFECTIVE
DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM DURING DRY MONTHS. THIS EVIDENT AND OBVIOUS
FAILURE IS TRAGIC TESTIMONY TO PRESENT NEEDS.
DWYER

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